

## **Appendix 4: New Hampshire Energy Efficiency Programs**

The five electric utilities, along with a diverse group of intervenors including ECS, PUC Staff, the Office of the Consumer Advocate, the Department of Environmental Services Air Resources Division, New Hampshire Legal Assistance, the Society for the Protection of NH Forests, the Conservation Law Foundation, and the Environmental Responsibility Committee of the Episcopal Diocese of NH, worked together to create a common set of statewide core programs. The programs are funded by the energy efficiency portion of the System Benefits Charge (SBC) that appears on customers' electric bills.

### **A4.1 “Core” Energy Efficiency Programs**

#### **A4.1.1 Residential Programs**

##### ***Energy Star® Lighting Program***

Residential customers who purchase of Energy Star® rated light bulbs and fixtures can receive rebate coupons redeemable at participating retailers. Other lighting and select energy savings products will also be made available from a mail order catalog. A typical Energy Star® rated Compact Fluorescent Lamp (CFL) lasts up to 10 times longer than an equivalent incandescent bulb and uses 75% less energy. Rebate levels available for energy efficient lights and fixtures are: \$3 towards compact fluorescent light bulbs; \$10 towards exterior light fixtures; \$15 towards interior light fixtures; and \$20 towards torchiere lamps.

##### ***Energy Star® Appliance Program***

Customers will receive a \$50 rebate coupon towards the purchase of an Energy Star® rated washing machine when purchased at a participating retailer. Energy Star® clothes washers use 35% to 50%

less water and 50% less energy per load.

### ***Home Energy Efficiency Program***

Customers can receive up to \$2,500 in rebates and services for qualified energy efficiency improvements under this program, known as the Residential Retrofit Program. Improvements include insulation, thermostats, lighting upgrades, and efficient refrigerators, and a customized report helping customers analyze their home. This program is targeted first to customers with some permanently installed electric heat, and will then be offered to customers with high electric use.

### ***Income Qualified Energy Efficiency Program***

Qualified low-income customers living in an apartment or house, either rented or owned, can receive up to \$3,600 in services (\$5,900 if customers also qualify for the NH Weatherization Assistance Program), including a customized report analyzing their home, improvements including insulation, thermostats, lighting upgrades, and efficient refrigerators, and recommendations on how to use energy more efficiently.

### ***NH Energy Star® Homes Program***

The NH Energy Star® Homes Program encourages customers to take advantage of the benefits of building or renovating a single or multi-family energy efficient home with rebates up to \$2,500. Energy Star® construction results in reduced monthly operating costs, improved homeowner comfort and a higher resale value, and environmental benefits.

## **A4.1.2 Commercial Programs**

### ***Small Business Energy Efficiency Program***

This program assists small commercial and industrial customers (under 100 kW) by providing 50% of the installed cost of electrical energy efficiency improvements, including lighting; occupancy sensors; electric hot water measures; controls for walk-in coolers; air conditioning; and programmable thermostats.

A similar Large Business Energy Advantage Program assists business customers over 100 kW with financial and technical services for installation of new energy efficient equipment through the replacement of old, inefficient equipment in existing facilities. Rebates are available for lighting conversions and controls, energy efficient motors; variable frequency drives (VFDs); energy management systems; LED traffic lights as well as custom projects. The New Construction / Major Renovation Program offers a variety of rebates and technical assistance services to any commercial/industrial customers building a new facility, undergoing a major renovation, or replacing failed (end-of-life) equipment.

### ***Schools***

Specifically designed to help schools access energy efficiency improvements, this program will pay for up to 100 percent of the incremental costs of energy efficiency projects.

More information on these energy efficiency programs can be found at [www.nhsaves.com](http://www.nhsaves.com).

## **A4.2 Programs of the Governor's Office of Energy and Community Services (ECS)**

ECS administers several DOE-funded energy programs, serving customers from the most energy-intensive industries, to schools and municipalities, to low income customers. The major energy programs administered by ECS are described at [www.nhecs.org](http://www.nhecs.org).

### ***Federal Weatherization Program***

The State of New Hampshire's Weatherization Assistance Program is designed to provide weatherization services to low-income persons throughout the state. The Weatherization Assistance Program reduces household energy use and costs by improving the energy efficiency of a participant's home. The overall goal of the Weatherization Assistance Program is to serve those low-income households that are most vulnerable to high energy costs and who would not otherwise have the means of making cost-effective energy conservation improvements to their homes.

The statewide Weatherization Assistance Program is administered by the Governor's Office of Energy and Community Services (ECS). The Weatherization Assistance Program operates on grants from the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP). ECS subcontracts with the state's Community Action Agencies (CAPs) to operate and deliver weatherization services at the local level.

ECS's working relationship with the CAPs is valuable because it allows for better coordination with other social service programs or organizations that eligible households may not be aware of. Participants in the Weatherization Assistance Program receive a comprehensive home energy audit, including diagnostic testing performed by an ECS-certified energy auditor. Based upon the energy audit findings, a crew of trained workers will return to install the required weatherization measures. The priority order in which these measures are usually performed is:

- measures designed to reduce general heat waste;
- wall and/or attic insulation where appropriate;
- the evaluation of and some repair to heating systems (under certain circumstances, grossly inefficient heating systems may be replaced).

This conserves energy and improves the energy efficiency of the home, reducing energy costs, improving comfort, and positively impacting the health and safety of the occupants.